



# AMERICAN VETERINARY REVIEW,

APRIL, 1886.

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## EDITORIAL.

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Our tenth volume—the past and the future. The organ of the profession—not of this or of that institution, but of the veterinary body at large—of all veterinary societies, whether National or State—not so much, perhaps, as it is willing to be. The United States Veterinary Medical Association—the March meeting—its failure and its cause and means of relief. Our new volume departure. Extracts from home agricultural papers—Pasteur's vaccine in hog cholera. Errors to be noticed in the reports. Parturient apoplexy. Use of cocaine. Another effort by the army veterinarian. Appointment of Prof. Chauveau—objections from the French “chronic kicker”—the need of a similar position in the United States. New legislation in Washington.

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We are about entering upon our tenth year of publication, and it is not without a feeling of pride that we emerge from what may be denominated the period of our adolescence, and realize that in a few months, at the farthest, we shall have quite survived the experimental stage, and achieved that era of journalistic existence which warrants a gratifying assurance of durability and permanence. Those of our friends who recall the circumstances which accompanied the establishment and early progress of the *Review*, and remember the signs of weakness and hesitation betrayed in some of the earlier numbers, will be glad to recognize the success which has crowned our efforts to elevate it to its present position of credit and usefulness; and while they look with satisfaction upon the progress thus far realized, it becomes a legitimate enquiry, What may be reasonably anticipated of our future?

The answer to this query lies largely with the members of our profession. If our efforts have proved successful, and the REVIEW has become what it is to-day, the true organ of veterinary intelligence and expression of veterinary science in the United States, it is not to our unaided exertions that this is due, but rather to the help we have received from our *confreres*, from veterinarians throughout the land; and by them mainly is the future of our organ to be defined and determined. The element of greatest force in the REVIEW consists in the fact that it is designed to be, and intends to remain, the organ of the PROFESSION; that its endeavor has always been to escape the imputation of lending its support to any single institution, whether this or that college, or to any specially designated veterinary body or interest. No existing organization has been denied the hospitality of its pages; the veterinarian body of the whole country has been welcome to express their views in its columns, and room has been found for whatever statement or opinion any of our organizations have desired to make public. If, as in some exceptional cases, advantage has not been taken of the opportunity we have so freely offered, the fault has not been ours; and if the National Veterinary Association has failed to communicate with us in the past, we hope that in the future a better feeling will be cherished and the silence of which we now complain terminated.

With due respect to our origin, we have always experienced a peculiar pleasure in referring to the United States Veterinary Medical Association. Conceived and born in the midst of that body, we have felt in duty bound to respond to its suggestions and to register the work done by so large a body of veterinarians. How much we regret that on the present occasion we have so little to say of their last semi-annual meeting, which should have been held in Boston last month, and that practically no meeting was held—or rather no official and legal meeting. A few, very few, members from this State (what one might call the “old stand-bys”), were present and answered the roll call; some dozen or more members from Massachusetts, Maine, Rhode Island and Connecticut were also in attendance; but with all this, nothing was or could be accomplished. The meeting had not been legally

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called, members had not been properly notified, and while more than a large quorum was present, no business could be transacted. Where does the blame belong? Undoubtedly to a lack of interest on the part of those whose duty it was to see that not only timely notices were issued, but who should also have made it their duty to arrange properly the details of the business likely to demand attention, and to see that those who at a pecuniary loss from the suspension of their practice were willing to submit to personal sacrifice and undergo the fatigue and expense of travel for the sake of being present, should have an opportunity of deriving some commensurate advantage from the occasion.

These are questions of vital importance to this as well as to other associations.

The United States Veterinary Medical Body cannot afford a repetition of the fiasco made in Boston, unless they are prepared to surrender their claim to be the oldest, best and most active organization of the country.

In our new volume we intend to take careful cognizance of the progress of veterinary medicine as indicated in the agricultural papers. In inaugurating this new departure, it is with regret that in reprinting an article from so influential and respectable a paper as the *Breeders' Gazette*, we find in the article relating to the value of Pasteur's vaccine in hog cholera, errors which we cannot overlook. In justice to Mr. Pasteur's valuable discoveries we feel it to be our duty to correct some of these—we trust, involuntary—errors, as they appear in the extract referred to, and which, were they to remain uncorrected, might result in serious injury to the interests of the swine breeders of the country.

The vaccine matter, with directions for the manner of using it, was furnished to the State Veterinarian of Nebraska *by ourselves*, with the design, not of testing the value of the process, but of proving the efficiency of the vaccine matter as imported directly from Europe, and ascertaining whether it would prove, after importation, as successful as it is in Europe. Can it be transported by steamer after a few days of preparation, and cross the Atlantic, passing, with more or less delay, through the custom house, and, after several days again added to its age, be carried

from New York to Nebraska, subject, perhaps, after reaching its destination, to still more delay before being tested, and then prove effective and successful? We doubted this when we sent the vaccine to the author of the report, and we notified him of our fears. We are not, therefore, surprised at what he publishes to-day, even though he wrote to us: "I believe the inoculation will prove a grand success." We did not believe it to be possible, and we doubt whether Mr. Pasteur himself entertained much hope of its success. He had told us that he had known the vaccine to keep good for five weeks. The matter used in the experiments in Nebraska must at least have been prepared about the twenty-fifth of September, and it was not earlier than the second of November that the first inoculation was performed. The loss of the value of this vaccine is not surprising. Its success, under the circumstances, was an unreasonable expectation, and to conclude that the "inoculation theory" is wrong, is, to express it very mildly, an error. If the cold logic of fact (a single fact) seems to disprove the theory in Nebraska, what shall be said of the same logic of facts—in the plural—which prove it to be almost a *certain success*, and almost the *only prophylactic measure against hog cholera* in most of the countries of Europe, whenever the process has been repeated with *fresh vaccine*?

Parturient apoplexy is a disease which interests all of us veterinarians and to which the agriculturist cannot remain indifferent. We profess to know a good deal about it, or at least much has been written on the subject. In the present number we have printed two articles, one of which was read before the Ohio State Veterinary Association, the other being a translation of a paper in French, received by us from St. Louis. We hope that both will prove interesting to our readers, and while they may greatly differ there is no doubt that great advantages may be derived from their perusal.

The use of cocaine in veterinary surgery, and the advantages attending it, receive another illustration in the paper which will be found in the present issue, from Dr. James. The aid of cocaine in performing the simple operation of neurotomy, shows but one of the numerous occasions upon which the surgeon may derive

benefit from it. It could be used in many other cases, and ought also to be used with great care, with great complication, and with great remedy, and with great of the effect. It are facts, and he should preclude or ether.

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benefit from its use. There are, without doubt, many cases which could be recorded of the advantages attending its use, but we ought also to hear of the danger of its application when combined with general anæsthesia. In human surgery the danger of the complications which attend the local application of this potent remedy, when followed by general anæsthesia, in case of failure of the effects of the first administration, are well known. These are facts with which the veterinarian ought to be familiar, and he should especially remember that the previous use of cocaine precludes the immediately following administration of chloroform or ether.

The *army veterinarian* finds in us once again, as he always will, an ally and assistant in his endeavors to obtain from the authorities in Washington a recognition of the rank and position to which he is so clearly entitled. In our last number we expressed our opinion in the matter, and proffered our advice to our unfortunate *confreres* in the army, and at their request we now gladly publish the circular handed to us, and which treats of the defects of the present rules for the government of the veterinary service. The paper also refers to the necessity of the reforms they suggest. This circular ought to receive the endorsement and support of every veterinary organization and every individual practitioner in the country.

Appointment of *Prof. Chauveau*.—The melancholy death of Henry Bouley had left an important position vacant in France, that of General Inspector of the veterinary schools of that country. And, notwithstanding a strong but questionable protest from the worthy editor of the *Echo*, who is pretty well known by French veterinarians as what we call in the slang vocabulary of this country, a "chronic kicker," Professor Chauveau has been transferred from the directorship of the Lyons school to the vacant position. Such an appointment may excite but little interest on this side of the water, but when we heard of it we could not avoid the reflection, how advantageous it would be if such a position could be created in the United States. Let us for a moment reflect upon the benefits which might be derived from it, and especially how good a thing it would be if

the movement which has been inaugurated for the adoption of a uniform curriculum in the American veterinary colleges should be brought to a possible and successful result. We do not know that we shall live to see the day when the veterinary colleges of America will have a uniform system of education and of examination, but if this should ever come to pass one of the natural consequences of the new departure will necessarily be the creation of such a position, and the election of some gentleman to fill it, with all the qualifications and requisites usually found in those who occupy similar places in Europe.

*New Regulations* amending the act creating the Bureau of Animal Industry are to be presented to Congress. Whether they will improve the workings of the Bureau and facilitate its business, we do not know. At first sight it seems to us more like an addition to the red tape system already existing, than a means of securing any essential benefits to this so often, more or less justly, criticised institution. Our confreres in Washington might tell us something about it.

## ORIGINAL ARTICLES.

### DISEASES OF THE HEART IN DOMESTIC ANIMALS, ESPECIALLY THE HORSE.

BY FR. BLAZEKOVIC.

(Translated by J. C. Meyer, Sr., V.S.)

*Continued from page 504, Vol. IX.*

#### IV.—RHEUMATIC AFFECTION OF THE HEART.

In rheumatic diseases of the organism a rheumatic affection of the heart is often established, which naturally concentrates in the serous membranes of the heart. The rheumatic affection of the heart most frequently observed is that which is concomitant with laminitis, articular rheumatism and constitutional diseases of the joints in fillies.

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intermittent, often oscillating. The pulse generally averages 60-80, but may rise to 100-120. Auscultation indicates a violent influx of blood which is interrupted by murmurs, produced by impediments. The sound is sometimes wheezing and fluttering.

The intensity of the symptoms and the changes during the course are closely connected with the issues of the corresponding affection, and can properly be regarded as an essential part of the disease.

Following in order, we might here discuss that second form of heart affection which appears acute and inflammatory, regardless of the cause or already existing effects.

The result of such affections is either a favorable change and cure, or increase of the inflammatory process to the highest degree and death; or a partial restoration and incomplete cure with development of chronic, pathologic and organic alterations in the heart, which latter condition is known under the very comprehensive term, "Defects of the Heart."

A characteristic of all acute inflammatory affections of the heart is the ever present feverishness of the whole organism, whereby often danger of death suddenly occurs. It is not absolutely requisite that such affections should be considered the cause of death.

We shall now describe such diseases of the heart as are based upon inflammatory action.

#### (A) INFLAMMATION OF THE PERICARDIUM.

Inflammation of the pericardium (pericarditis) is without doubt, the most prevalent of heart diseases among domestic animals. It is also the least difficult to diagnose, as the symptoms are clearly defined and the diagnostic expedients can be most readily applied.

At the outset of the disease the difficult and accelerated respiration (to 30 per min.) becomes conspicuous upon the slightest movement; however, the physical examination will prove that no lung trouble is present. A violent fever will facilitate the diagnosis before additional characteristic symptoms appear. The variable severity of the fever at short intervals must not be

overlooked, as it affords almost positive evidence of the correctness of the diagnosis. Hence, we shall notice an alternating rise and fall of the pulse, whose beats vary from 80 to 100 and 110. The fever, which in the morning is less, in the evening more aggravated, reaches a critical point during the night. The pulse at the same time is tense, though equal in beat, and only then intermittent if occasional changes of the heart be present. If the inflammation be limited to the pericardium only, the pulse will be found accelerated and changed in the manner described; still the pulsations are always regular, succeeding each other at equal intervals.

At the beginning, the heart-beat throbs violently, but is clear; as the disease progresses, if exudation sets in, a smaller or stronger back-stroke is easily detected by the hand. The phenomenon of the back-stroke is undoubtedly the result of the resistance and obstruction produced by the newly formed exudation.

Coughing, mostly short and dry, occurs occasionally at the beginning of the disease, during the hyperæmic as during the congestive stage; later the cough disappears gradually. At the very outset of the disease the temperature of the body changes frequently after the inflammation is already decided. After ten to twenty hours a high fever sets in, which fluctuates between 38° and 40° Cels.

On auscultation a friction sound is perceptible, which is also felt by placing the hand on the cardiac region, especially if the pericardium in the stadium of exudation be covered with effusion. The more the serous and plastic exudation increases during the course of the disease the more conspicuous are these sounds, and according to their nature it is possible to discriminate the kind of exudation. If the friction sound be prominent the plastic exudation predominates, while if the serous exudation predominates a flapping sound is heard. According to the quantity of the exudation the pericardium distends, generally toward the base. If the serous effusion fills the pericardium the percussion sound is dull; of course, only at the base at first, then higher up and more extended. In this condition the cardiac sounds are weak, the heart-beat faint and less clear. If only simple pericarditis be

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present the course may change variously; often, after a short illness, death occurs; often, before excessive exudation takes place, restoration may ensue in an astonishingly short time.

In fatal issues oedema of the lungs and hæmostasia are almost constant appearances, owing to the obstruction in circulation. In cases of recovery the exudation gradually becomes dissolved and resorbed. As it diminishes the friction sound also disappears with the ruffled smoothness of the pericardial leaves. The character of the pericardial fremitus is dependent upon the degree of smoothness and roughness of the membranes. These sounds are not consonant with the cardiac sounds, which occur within the interior of the heart; for they seem to drag after the cardiac sound, while the sounds within the cavity of the heart correspond with the rhythm of the heart-beats. The pericardial friction fremitus is dependent upon the roughness and friction of the leaves, whereby the cardiac sounds are less clear and scarcely audible in consequence of the exudation. The discrimination of murmurs in the stadium of exudation is of diagnostical value.

Sometimes the resorption of the effusion progresses less favorably; the process becomes chronic, and by slow but steady increase of the effusion, dropsy of the pericardium is finally developed, which, associated with excessive dispnoæ and violent symptoms of the heart, cause death.

More frequently than has as yet been acknowledged, a form of traumatic pericarditis is met with in ruminants. It is developed by the penetration of foreign bodies through the first stomach into the pericardium, and produce all the symptoms of pericarditis. If the disease does not set in with too great severity and violence, as is nearly always the case after taking cold accompanied by rheumatic affection or pleuritis, prognosis is favorable if assistance is near at hand.

Although pericarditis is at all times recognized as a serious critical affection, its traumatic form will always terminate fatally.

Owing to its profuse exudation, inflammation of the pericardium can give rise to general dropsy. Such dropsy extends to the thorax and cavities of the abdomen, and there produces compression of the lungs. The physical signs of dropsy differ from



those of pericardial primary effusion, inasmuch as no friction sound occurs as in hydropericardium. Quite frequently hydropericardium occurs as consecutive disease of dropsy of the chest and abdomen.

(B) INFLAMMATION OF THE MUSCLE OF THE HEART.

*Myocarditis.*—During life it is scarcely possible to diagnose myocarditis, and in cattle can be merely conjectured. It appears either independently or associated with other diseases, but generally it is generated by pointed foreign substances, which penetrate the muscle of the heart from the stomachs. Now and then the foreign substance in its course from the reticulum gradually works its way into the wall of one of the ventricles, even to the partition of the ventricles; as a matter of course, in such a case pericarditis is always present. We have already discussed in what manner the penetrating foreign bodies lodge in the fleshy substance of the heart.

The essential perceptible symptoms from which a myocarditis can be subjected are, groans, debility, repeated staggering, chills, high temperature and fever. A constant phenomenon of the heart-beat is irregularity of the rhythm, but equality in strength. The pulse is always small, quick, but very excited, and averages 100 and more beats per minute. If at a later period insufficiency of the valves appear with it, it may be assumed that the anomalies of the valves had already existed, and myocarditis has been added to it. (Provided no traumatic cause can be traced.)

If myocarditis be developed in connection with enlargement of the heart the physical examination will show, upon percussion, a corresponding dull sound. On auscultation a change in the cardiac sounds can only then be established if pericarditis and endocarditis, or diseases of the valves, interfere. An ever present violent palpitation of the heart which, irregular in rhythm, changes to a tremulous, flickering, irregular action of the organ, is very easily ascertained, and is almost characteristic for myocarditis.

Prognosis is unreliable.

The issues of the affection are generally hypertrophy, atrophy, expansion, in short, intensive changes in the fleshy substance of the heart.

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## PARTURIENT APOPLEXY.

By A. ROUX, V.M., St. Louis, Mo.

The opinion I had formed some years ago respecting this disease might have become settled and fixed, but that in the discussion of so important a subject it becomes necessary to consider and review the various theories concerning it which have been entertained for the past century, and brought down to the present time; and as the result of long investigation it has been, at last, classified with curable diseases.

The following seems to be a correct history of the affection which sometimes follows the parturition of our domestic animals.

It was in 1718 that Strohler wrote respecting the puerperal fever of women, and that such veterinarians as Favre, Hering and Fuchs recognized it as inflammatory, on account of the collapses and the paralytic form which accompanied it. For more than a century, and almost without distinction, it was treated as metritis, metropéritonitis, and even septicæmia, whose starting point was in the genital apparatus, and which resulted from putrid infection following parturition.

In 1817, C. Viborg made another important study of this disease, of which the prognosis was almost so uniformly unfavorable, and confirmed the opinions of his predecessors, who until that period had agreed to consign it to a prominent place among intractable disorders of which a fatal termination might be considered the usual sequel. The true etiology of the disease had not then been mastered, and the modes of treatment recommended were various, and of course, with widely differing results. Some practitioners claimed a percentage of recovery from fifteen to twenty-five per cent., but this degree of success was quite offset by the unfavorable reports of others, which greatly reduced the average and quite neutralized the exceptional good fortune so claimed.

*Vitular fever* has been well described by Heiss, Garreau, Carsten, Harms, Spinola, Roell, etc., and was proved to be quite a distinct disease from puerperal fever in women, on account of the differential treatment employed in both varieties.

This disease may be affirmed to be peculiar to the cow, although it has been sometimes observed in dogs and goats. It usually appears a few hours after delivery, but more commonly two or three days elapse before its appearance. According to some writers, it has been observed after twelve or fourteen days. I believe, however, that these must have been cases of metritis, metroperitonitis or septicæmia.

When the disease shows itself soon after parturition, it is ushered in by manifest symptoms, such as: intermittent chills of short duration, with coldness of skin; a degree of stiffness of the body; sometimes spasmodic contractions of the extremities, forming the first sign of the paraplegic variety; a cessation of rumination; an anxious and painful expression of the face; restlessness, shown by flinging the tail about; a disposition to strike with the horns; straining in urinating. After a few hours the animal lies down, in sternal decubitus and generally on the right side. It is usually not until this moment that the veterinarian is called upon for assistance, and this is to be regretted, for the disease has by this time made dangerous progress. Besides, usually the patient has already been dosed with various drugs, which, if she is to be killed, have rendered her meat unfit for human consumption. It is for these reasons that these first symptoms ought to be well known by agriculturists and breeders, in order that they may not neglect to call assistance upon the earliest appearance of danger.

The animal, still lying on her right side, looks toward her left flank; there is great depression of the whole organism; the animal resembles an inert mass, almost unconscious of whatever may be done to her. This condition is properly called by Fabre, the collapse of parturition. There is great loss of strength: the eye is dull; the pupils are largely dilated; the cornea is motionless; the ears are drooping and cool; the pulse small and quick, from 80 to 90; the temperature has risen two or three degrees; the animal moans and grinds her teeth; the respiration is stertorous; the mouth is filled with abundant saliva; the visible mucous membranes are pale, except those of the genital organs, which are always more or less tumified; the vagina is dry; constipation is persistent; the manure coated; at times there is diarrhœa; the

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milky secretion has stopped; there is general paralysis; the rumen and the intestines have lost their peristaltic motions; the circulation is increased; the heart bounds; the respiration is slow; there is first paraplegia, and afterwards convulsions. Breuter, Gablis, Donnellus and Festal have seen the paraplegia absent, and the cases then were complicated with amaurosis.

The prognosis, though varying, and always very serious, must in some cases be guarded, as while fatal results may take place in a few hours, recovery has so occurred in a short time. The thermometer may assist considerably on this point, as the rapid dropping of the temperature, after a sudden elevation, is generally a bad omen.

*Pathological anatomy.—Nature—*The neglect of post mortem examinations of animals which have died or have been slaughtered, may account for the ignorance of the nature of this disease in times past. But since 1856 it has been established that vitular fever rarely arises from traumatic lesions connected with delivery, since the disease has made its appearance as well after natural parturition as after the most difficult case of distocia.

Viborg, Roell, Stockfelt and Zundel have frequently found the uterus greatly enlarged, with its walls thickened and flabby, and the mucous membrane much injected. Decomposed lochia have also been found in the organs, with foetid sanious fluid, and a mixture of blood, mucosities and coagula, with remains of the foetal envelop; the cotyledons are large, dark red and resembling small sponges, and the veins of the uterus are varicose, containing small clots, probably the starting points of embolisms in various parts of the body.

Roell alone says he found phlebitis and pus in the veins. The ovaries and fallopian tubes are altered; the peritoneal cavity is filled with purulent serosity or contains floating masses of coagulated fibrine. This has been attributed by some to a sort of metastatic action, produced by the milk, and on this account Roell had named the disease milk fever.

Nothing abnormal is found about the nervous centers; the same being true of human puerperal fever. Sero-purulent effusions of the pleura and of the meninges have been noticed by



some observers. In vitular fever there is always an extraordinary repletion of the venous system, which is gorged with dark blood, which is especially abundant in the portal system. The causes of this condition are still unknown. The spleen is enlarged; the cavities of the heart empty. Besides the local lesions of the genital organs, evidence of paralysis of the viscera are always found. The third stomach is filled with dry packed food, producing constipation. The bladder is always distended, but flabby and empty.

Many have considered the disease as inflammatory in its nature, but it is more than probable that there is a peculiar condition of the sympathetic system, extending to the spinal cord. Still, the symptoms and manifestations are so varied that the most vigilant mind has the most difficulty in finding a true explanation of the nature of the disorder.

In human medicine it has been admitted that the morbid element, which enters the economy, or the toxic principle which alters the blood and produces puerperal fever, either originates in the economy or is introduced from without. It has also been observed that this disease may assume an epidemic character. Such is not the case in animals, and though epizootic abortion may have been accompanied by septicæmic manifestations, these might be otherwise explained: for example, by the manipulation of the accoucheurs, carrying the morbid infesta from one patient to another.

A plethoric state, high feeding, and peculiar hygienic conditions have also been referred to among the causes of the various and numerous manifestations of this affection.

*Treatment.*—Almost all kinds of treatment have been tried and found unsuccessful. Antiphlogistics, and among them bleeding, were recommended, thus depressing a patient already in want of vital forces. Mucilagenous drinks and salines have also been tried, without good results.

The Germans advise the use of croton oil; the French prefer aloes, in thirty or forty gramm doses, with emollient injections. Nux vomica, with tartar emetic, as well as calomel, have been advantageously employed by many in stimulating the vermicular

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action of the intestines. English veterinarians prefer spirit of turpentine internally. This drug has the great inconvenience of rendering the meat useless, in case the animal is slaughtered.

Ether, valerian, assafoetida and many neurostenic drugs, combined with alcohol, have given good results.

The external treatment has been no less varied. Wrapping the animal in large wet sheets; the application of warm compresses, stimulating friction, ammoniacal liniments, turpentine, mucilaginous or alcoholic injections in the vagina, or in preference a solution of permanganate of potassa or phenic acid, are also indicated.

All these seem to be more or less reliable, and the losses still average generally between eighty and ninety per cent.

From the publications made in the *Recueil de Medecine Veterinaire*, much success seems to have been obtained with the treatment followed by Messrs. Hartenstein and Mathé.

This treatment, published in *l'Hydrotherapie appliquée aux animaux*, is a mixed treatment whose agents are douches of cold water on the head and loins, repeated bleedings and drastic purgatives. The results obtained by the author in several cases induced him to present it to the profession, and a large number of recoveries have since been recorded, as well by the author as by many veterinarians in France.

We have ourselves employed the Hartenstein treatment in many cases, and it has always given us full satisfaction. It is on account of this success that we have thought proper to present the subject to our confreres and to the agriculturists and breeders of this country.

## PARTURIENT APOPLEXY.

Paper read before the Ohio State Veterinary Medical Association.

By W. F. DERR, V.S.

The subject I am about to bring before you for discussion is a disease called by the dairyman and farmer milk fever, or dropping after calving; by the more scientific men, parturient apoplexy,

parturient collapse, puerperal fever, etc. Few diseases affecting animals have received a greater amount of attention or have given rise to more different opinions as to their nature than the malady to which we have given the designation of parturient apoplexy. Veterinary literature, as far as I can find, teems with the descriptions and discussions relative to the disease, and still most eminent pathologists are far from unanimous in their opinions as to the nature of the disease. The great number of names given it is evidence of the uncertainty which has prevailed and now prevails with regard to it. For instance, it has been called vitular fever, vitular apoplexy, vitular paralysis, by the French, calbit feber by the Germans, milk fever, puerperal fever, parturient collapse and parturient apoplexy by the English speaking people.

#### PATHOLOGY.

A superabundance of blood in the system immediately after calving, which instead of producing, as in course of nature it should, proper support for its offspring, is retained in the system, surcharging the various vessels, from which the results are pressure on the brain and nerve centers, producing coma and, if not relieved, death.

Gamgee, on this subject, considers that there is present in the blood a specific element that causes the malady.

Some authorities attribute the disease to an accumulation of milk-producing elements in the blood, giving rise to fever, and blood-poisoning, to a sudden overloading the system with blood, causing nervous disorders.

Finlay Dun describes it in following words: "The large quantities of blood that have until the time of parturition been nourishing the calf, are diverted with their new channels for the production of milk. If at this critical period the bowels are constipated and the mammary gland does not at once take on its functions, this superabundance of blood soon becomes a source of mischief; it produces congestion and subsequently inflammation of the brain and nerve centers; serum is poured out, causing by its pressure impairment of motion, sensation arresting secretion and excretion, a sluggish and most imperceptible pulse, and slow and stertorous breathing."

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Professor Williams says that the particular congestion of the brain and its meninges is determined by the state of mental excitement which is always present at this period, an argument borne out by the fact that the removal of the offspring from the mother is a fruitful cause of the so-called milk fever, but such an exciting cause is not essential. Surely, this excitement must be greater with the first or second calf, when the disease is seldom or never seen, than with the third, fourth and fifth, when it is so frequent.

Sanson says the collapses of parturition is the consequence of a sudden disturbance in the physiological condition of the uterus after parturition, consisting of the sudden removal of blood which congested the organs at that time, as during gestation a large portion of the blood is diverted toward the pelvic region where the uterus is lodged. After parturition the mucous membranes and cotyledons of the organs have lost their functions, and the enormous quantity of blood they contained is suddenly thrown into the circulation, surcharging the neighboring vessels beyond measure and producing collapse. In proof of this, at the time of post mortems he made, Sanson affirms that the mucous membranes and cotyledons were found bloodless and of a pale yellow color.

Weimer is of the opinion that the vascular system is involved, as manifested by the diminution of temperature and the lacteal secretion, as well as the nervous system shown by general depression and loss of sensation, inactivity of the spinal cord in the dorsal region, difficulty in digestion, quickened heart's action, and slowing of the respirations. And the causes he believes to be bad diet and pressure of the foetus on the stomach and intestines, diaphragm vena cava and posterior aorta; a too rapid evacuation of the contents of the uterus bring about a fall of the abdominal viscera, dilation of the posterior aorta, and a slackening of the circulation, etc.

Another theory, that of Lafosse, is that the malady is due to the circumstances that the milky fluid secreted by the cotyledons and absorbed by the chlorial villa for the nutrition of the foetus, being no longer separated from the blood after parturition, remains in the circulation and accumulates there until the mam-



delivery, uterine hemorrhage, and even by some authorities, it is said to never follow retention of the foetal membranes; but this I have not found to be the case in my practice, as I have seen it before parturition, also in the act, and have frequently seen it in cases of retention of the foetal membranes. One of the exciting causes is the milk-forcing system. A few days before and right after parturition the cow usually gets in our country a bucketful of warm feed in the way of from two to three quarts of flour or mill feed, with warm water, two or three times a day, with an addition of some coarse feed, in order to have a large production of milk. Now this kind of diet forced on an animal which is not only rich in its products but has also a constipating effect, is not only calculated to produce functional derangement of the digestive organs, but constitutional and sympathetic disturbances of the brain and nerve centers, and as a result, apoplexy.

*Prognosis.*—The prognosis in this disease is generally difficult if not unfavorable, as it is fatal in the majority of cases. There are cases that look trifling at first which have a rapid termination, while others that look desperate, with alarming symptoms, quickly recover.

My prognosis is usually unfavorable, if the owner wants my opinion. If he does not, I give none from the commencement of the attack.

There is no absolute case, I think, where we can positively say whether we can cure or whether death will take place from the commencement of the attack, and it often happens that the result contradicts the prognosis. The earlier the disease takes place after parturition, the more serious the case may be considered, while the longer it takes to come on, the less likely to prove fatal. I always think it a good omen if the disease takes place from two to three days after parturition. When it appears in less than twenty-four hours after the act, it mostly or nearly always proves fatal, or when the attack is very sudden and powerful, when there is marked coma, rapid and general loss of heat and great distention of the rumen, loss of vision, violent convulsions, deep mucous rales in the trachea, eyes insensible to the touch, dropping of the lower jaw, oral breathing, relaxed sphincter,



and total suppression of milk. The favorable indications are when the temperature is retained normal in body and limbs, and when there is the slightest elevation, when it is low, when the urine is either spontaneously expelled, or by the index finger being introduced into the meatus urinarus.

It is also a very favorable symptom when the feces are passed. A return to consciousness is also a very good omen, and particularly when she takes notice of her calf and makes attempts to rise and the milk begins to reappear.

In some cases there is a slight recovery and then a relapse from various causes, and death takes place. I always think the longer the disease continues the more hopes of a favorable termination of the malady.

*(To be continued.)*

### HYDROCHLORATE OF COCAINE IN NEUROTOMY.

By H. F. JAMES, V.S., St. Louis, Mo.

To my old and valued friend, Dr. C. C. McLean, of Meadville, Pa., is due the honor of introducing cocaine to the profession in connection with the operation of neurotomy. Since his article appeared in the REVIEW, I operated on a bay horse ten years old, affected with incurable navicular disease, first injecting about 25 minims of a four per cent. solution of cocaine a little above the place of incision. The local anæsthesia was perfect, the animal lay quietly, and the nerve could be picked up and squeezed without the slightest evidences of pain; section produced no struggling whatever. I injected each side of the leg before cutting the skin. The wounds healed quickly, and the owner was well pleased with the result.

Neurotomy is acknowledged to be the most painful operation we are called upon to perform, and heretofore, owing to our reluctance to use chloroform on horses, their sufferings were unavoidable. Here we have a drug, cheap in price, easily used, which does away with all this needless suffering, and enables us to do the requisite cutting neatly and quickly; therefore I think

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I am not speaking too strongly when I say, that the hypodermic injection of cocaine will soon be accepted by advanced veterinarians as an integral part of the operation.

## FISTULA OF STENON'S DUCT.

BY THE SAME.

About the beginning of the year my advice was asked concerning a running sore on a mare's jaw, which had existed for eight months. Examination proved it to be a fistulous parotid duct, due to implication in the abscess of strangles. The portion between the fistulous opening and the mouth was completely obliterated. When fed on hay the saliva was poured out in great quantities, in spite of which the mare, a handsome bay, valued at \$350, was in good condition.

I thought first of trying to establish an artificial duct, but reflecting on some previous rather disappointing trials by this method, I resolved to adopt a different course. A friend, an M.R.C.V.S., and a graduate of Alfort besides, suggested excision. I told him I would try Williams' method of obliteration, but he shook his head and predicted abscesses, sloughing of large portions of skin, etc.

The owner did not want the mare laid up long, nor did he want her scarred if possible. I am as good an operator as the average, but I confess I did not like the excising treatment; the arterial and venous relations of the gland seemed to entitle it to a certain amount of respect. I had a No. 3 Davidson hard rubber uterine syringe containing half-an-ounce, with a very long nozzle. Enlarged the fistulous opening a little and passed a soft uterine probe up the duct, and got the angle; next dipped the nozzle of the syringe in hot water and moulded to the probe; placed a twitch on the mare, filled syringe with Williams' injection, oiled the nozzle and passed several inches up into the duct, though it was a rather tight fit. A good assistant compressed the parts around and below the nozzle, so that there would be no back flow, and kept the duct compressed on withdrawing nozzle;

managed to inject about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ounces of the fluid, when the resistance became too great. Next day parotid and orbital regions greatly swollen, eye entirely closed on that side; second day gone down a great deal, and in a few days only the swollen outlines of the parotid gland to be seen. A week after rubbed in a little Ung. Hyd. biniod to hasten affairs, and allowed dry feed for first time since operation. A few drops of semi-purulent discharge came from the fistulous opening for some days, then totally ceased. Three weeks after the operation the owner was driving, the opening healed up, the obliterated gland very slightly swollen, and no scars to impair her value or appearance.

An ordinary small nozzled syringe will not do to force the fluid into the farthest ramifications of the gland; the Davidson syringe exactly fills the bill.

Theoretically the obliteration of a parotid gland should be followed by all manner of awful consequences: colic from imperfect digestion, loss of condition, etc.; but here was a mare, which for eight months had lost every drop of saliva secreted by one gland, and despite the weakening influences of this constant drain on her system, she was fat and sleek. The functional activity of the other parotid gland had doubtless increased to meet the emergency.

Although this article may provoke a smile from the older and more experienced members of the profession, I would beg to remind them that what their younger confreres need is a knowledge of detail. Fistula of Stenon's duct is not so frequently seen by any of us that we can afford to ignore the experience of others, and it is something, if only a little, to raise one's voice against the apparently needless operation of excision. Williams, whose value as a practical writer is conceded more and more as our years of practice lengthen, merely gives the formula for an injection, and says to use a powerful syringe. Not a word about the choice of a syringe, the quantity of injection required, the condition of the animal's head for the few days succeeding the operation—a verified prognosis of which scores a good point for us with our clients. Only general advice, not a word about these important points, which, to use a slang expression, we are expected to

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## REPORT

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"tumble to" of our own intuition. This paucity of detail is a radical defect in veterinary literature. We have specialists who are busily engaged in the study of bacteriology and the prevention of disease, but to the routine practitioner every improvement in therapeutics is of vital importance.

To keep pace with the times, to sift the practical from the visionary, medical facts from medical illusions, to encourage individual effort by a proper professional recognition of our original views, so that our best men may have some inducement to publish their ideas, and not keep them locked up within their own beasts—this is the road that leads to mutual improvement, and the way to build up a vigorous practical literature. The man engaged in arduous professional work lays his success in practice before the public as a test of his ability; he is imbued with a scientific spirit, inasmuch as he is striving for knowledge, even if it be the at present much-sneered-down-upon branch—therapeutics. If he reads at all during his few spare moments, he looks for something practical; something that will raise his average of success; it is more profitable to him than reading erudite essays on pathological anatomy, studied with absorbing interest, I will venture to say, only by profound microscopists, of whom we possess comparatively few. We cannot afford to follow those visionaries who would like to throw therapeutics overboard, and usurp its place by sanitary science and Utopian ideas of eradicating all disease. Even the ultra-scientific spirits among those gentlemen employed by the Bureau of Animal Industry, in the advent of this era of good health to our live stock, could be pardoned if they placed their hands in their empty pockets and disconsolately whistled "Here's a state of things."

## REPORT OF CASES FROM THE AMERICAN VETERINARY HOSPITAL.

BY J. SCHEIBLER, D.V.S., House Surgeon.

### SUB-PAROTID MELANOTIC TUMORS.

The history as well as the post-mortem examination made in this case furnish an interesting addition to the already crowded history of melanotic growths in animals of a gray color. This subject



has been for a number of years under the observation of Dr. J. Dougherty, of New York City, and was sent by him to the hospital of the college for clinical instruction to the students.

Affected with severe difficulty of breathing, and roaring even when at rest in his stall, this gray gelding, about twelve years of age, had some three and a half years previously presented on the right parotid gland an enlargement, the true nature of which was not then made out, but which, under treatment by severe blistering, seemed to have somewhat subsided. It however, soon appeared to have regained its former size, and continued to enlarge. About four months ago another swelling began to show itself in the left side, rapidly increasing, and extending from the base of the ear down to the lower extremity of the parotid. The enlargements of both parotid glands had assumed the general external appearance of melanotic tumors, and the fact of their interfering with the respiration had rendered any possible treatment out of the question. The poor animal, which was apparently otherwise in perfect health, was destroyed.

From the general condition and age of the patient, and the enormous size of the parotid growths, it was supposed that lesions of general melanemia would be found on the post-mortem examination, but this did not prove to be the case. On the contrary, every organ of the splanchnic cavity was normal, and no melanotic tumor or deposits could be found in any portion of the cadaver, except those under the parotid glands. Connected together under the cranium, and opening in the guttural pouches, laudable pus of a thick consistency was found. The tumors, when removed and isolated, weighed four pounds for the right, and three pounds for the left side. But besides these lesions, another no less interesting, was discovered. This consisted in a fracture of the long branch of the hyoid bone on the left side, with an absorption of a portion of the bony structure. The two fragments were separated from each other by a space not less than two inches, but remained united together by a long thick fibrous band. This was, of course, independent of the melanotic deposits, but the question might have been asked, with propriety, had not that fracture something to do with the suppurative collection of the guttural pouches.

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## GUN-SHOT WOUND IN A DOG.

BY THE SAME.

Leisurely loitering on the road in the country, this dog, a large mastiff bitch, of a good and kind disposition, seeing a stranger passing by, and running to him in a friendly way, was received with a shot at the hands of the stranger from a shot-gun, receiving a large and ugly wound on the left side of the head.

When first visited by Dr. Coates, that gentleman found an abscess formed over the affected eye, from which a large quantity of pus was allowed to escape; and then an irregular wound was seen over the temporal region, with a fracture of the zygomatic process, which was shattered in several small pieces. The eye was of course, destroyed, and the animal was suffering so greatly, as much from the shock as from the wound, that the prospect of her recovery was very doubtful. She was ordered to the hospital, and admitted on the 19th of December.

When she entered her wound had the general aspect above described, but the animal was so weak that she was unable to walk, or even to stand erect, and had to be carried to the operating room to be dressed.

The parts being well cleaned and antiseptically washed, the loose pieces of bone were removed, the cutaneous sloughs which were taking place were gradually taken off, and carefully applied carbolic dressing was laid over the entire left side of the head. A few days later the wound had begun to assume a better character. The granulations looked more healthy, the pus was less sanious, and the mortified skin, portions of the muscles and of the eye having sloughed away, the animal seemed to have more strength, and now walked by herself from her kennel to the room where she was dressed, and her appetite was improved. Still a tract existed on the posterior border of the wound, which on probing was found to open into a subcutaneous sac, which being incised, was followed by the escape of a large number of small shots, many more of which were afterwards removed from day to day. The wound, however, continued granulating and diminishing in size, and after a few days the patient was discharged convalescent.

When taken home the wound was almost perfectly closed, except towards the inner canthi of the eye, the general condition of the animal being very satisfactory. But in walking, she carries her head sidewise, and looking upwards from the right side. A peculiar nervous condition, which was more extensively marked during her malady, has so much diminished that its entire disappearance is considered only a matter of time.

#### SARCOMATOUS TUMOR OF THE ABDOMEN IN A STALLION.

BY THE SAME.

The subject of this report was an animal of great value, whose death was a great loss to the breeding interests of the country.

The patient, Oxmore, a bay stallion, owned by General Tracy, was admitted to the hospital of the college with the following history:

During the season of 1884 he covered from thirty to thirty-five mares, but in July, 1885, he gave his services to one only. A few weeks later, some time in August, he had a slight attack of colic, from which he readily recovered. Soon afterwards he was observed to have a swelling of the left testicle, which was followed by one of the same nature on the right. These swellings assumed considerable dimensions, and soon began to extend downwards, until both legs, but principally the left, became involved. Under the treatment of his trainer these seemed almost entirely to disappear, but after a time the swelling of the left testicle began to change, by alternately disappearing and enlarging—sometimes present and sometimes absent.

Dr. Adam and Prof. Law had been applied to for advice, but to what effect could not be ascertained in any positive manner.

When consulted on the subject, Dr. Liautard declined to make any positive diagnosis, unless the patient could be examined, though he stated that it might be a case of either hernia, hydrocele or sarcocele.

The owner then decided to send him to New York, and when entered he was immediately submitted to examination. He was then, apparently, in perfect health, with all his functions in good physiological order. The scrotal region on the left side was con-

siderably enlarged, though the swelling was not so extensive as to be a hindrance to the animal's movements. The diagnosis of the disease was made by the hand was in contact with a lump just over the neoplasm could be felt. The sarcomatous tumor was all the symptoms of a tumor. The number of veterinary cases of this kind is very small. The proper treatment of this disease is that the removal of the tumor with a very

The owner of the horse was anxious to make an attempt to cure the horse at home, but the recovery was impossible.

To this end the operation was performed on the right side, and the tumor was removed. Dr. Liautard, Dr. Bell, Dixon, and others were present to observe the growth.

An incision was made in the length, and the tumor was removed on one side of the scrotum, and the skin was carefully dissected. The peritoneum was introduced with the tumor, and the dimensions of the tumor were

In preparation for the operation, the animal was divided to facilitate the operation.

siderably enlarged, but when seen through the enlargement, though the testicle was much increased in size, it seemed otherwise to be normal. The spermatic cord was also the seat of swelling. It was not a case of hydrocele. To decide as to the diagnosis of hernia, rectal examination was made. When the hand was introduced into the rectum, it was brought in contact with a large mass, hard and immovable, not painful, situated just over the left inguinal ring. The nature of this large neoplasm could scarcely be made out, though it was probably a sarcomatous growth, and its presence was sufficient to account for all the symptoms exhibited by the patient. Examined by a number of veterinarians, and advice having been obtained as to the proper treatment to institute, the only conclusion reached was that the removal of the tumor was the only indication presented, with a very faint chance of recovery.

The owner being notified of this state of affairs, it was decided to make an attempt to remove the mass, with a proviso to destroy the horse at once, if the operation should prove impracticable, or recovery impossible.

To this effect, the horse was on the 9th of February prepared for the operation. The animal having been thrown down on his right side, and brought completely under the influence of ether, Dr. Liautard, assisted by Drs. Robertson, Lockhart, Johnson, Bell, Dixon, and several others, proceeded to the removal of the growth.

An incision was made on the left flank, about twelve inches in length, starting a little in front of Poupart's ligament, and on one side of the lateral border of the rectus abdominis muscle, and the skin, with the fibres of the abdominal muscles, was carefully divided. This was unaccompanied by hemorrhage. The peritoneum being exposed and carefully opened, the hand introduced into the abdominal cavity came directly in contact with the tumor, and then only could a correct appreciation of its dimensions be obtained.

In preparing for the operation, various means had been provided to facilitate the amputation, which was to be made with the *ecraseur*. Various instruments of that nature had been prepared.

The chains of the ordinary ecraseurs being generally too short, piano wires, often used in crushing tumors, had been provided, some of them measuring two or three feet in length. Still, none of them were found to be long enough to embrace the mass at its base. Several attempts were made to crush the tumor, both in whole and in portions, but all failed, and the case assumed such a character that there was no doubt as to the ultimate result. The animal would never again get up, even if the tumor were removed, the shock having been too severe, and fatal traumatic peritonitis would be the inevitable termination. The animal, while still under general anæsthesia, was consequently destroyed, and a post-mortem examination made immediately.

The walls of the abdomen having been removed, the tumor was well exposed. It was found resting on the left side of the anterior rim of the pelvis, and pressing upon the superior inguinal ring. It was smooth, round and firm, and adhered to the adjacent tissues by a large base, which measured not less than three and a half feet in circumference. Torn from its attachments and removed from the abdomen, it weighed nearly five pounds, and measured sixteen inches in thickness. A section through its centre showed it to be formed of a largely condensed structure, of a dark greyish hue, of a lardaceous nature, a small portion of which, placed under the microscope, revealed sarcomatous degeneration, probably of some of the lumbar lymphatic or superficial pelvic ganglions.

## AMERICAN VETERINARY COLLEGE.

### COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES.

The American Veterinary College brought the term for 1885-'86 to an agreeable close by the Commencement exercises, which was held at the usual place, Chickering Hall, on the 1st instant. Notwithstanding that the month had *marched* in "like a lion," and an angry one at that, and the weather was of a character fully to justify one's fears of a scant attendance, the hall, long before eight o'clock, was filled with the officers of the

College, the numerous friends, the graceful music by the amount of ginary assembly

The proceeds of the Board by the grand "Monarch" seated in the duce by Re Divine bless

Following the college, and in which by patronizing business of the diploma honorable d ceremony wa of the Board ing gentlemen their signatur

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College, the inchoate graduates, their late fellow students, and numerous friends. The platform was gay with floral decorations, the graceful gifts of many friends, and there was inspiring music by Cappa's band, who probably included a sufficient amount of *galop* compositions to give consistency to the veterinary assemblage.

The proceedings were punctually inaugurated by the entrance of the Board of Trustees and members of the Faculty, followed by the graduating students, to the strains of Steinhagen's "Monarch" March, and when the audience had become quietly seated in their respective places, the proceedings were duly introduced by Rev. Dr. Weston, in an appropriate invocation of the Divine blessing.

Following the official report of the condition and progress of the college, which was presented by the Dean of the Faculty, and in which the important and unique advantages to be secured by patronizing the institution were duly set forth, the principal business of the meeting was consummated by the presentation of the diplomas, which invested the graduating class with the honorable degree of DOCTOR OF VETERINARY SURGERY. The ceremony was gracefully performed by S. Marsh, Esq., President of the Board of Trustees, and when it was concluded, the following gentlemen had become lawfully authorized to supplement their signatures with the comprehensive initials "D.V.S."

Daniel Caswell Ashley, Mass.; Edgar Miles Beckley, Conn.; Lewis Maires Bignell, Pa.; Seaman Bradley, N. Y.; Charles Edward Bridge, Pa.; John Sheperd Candee, N. Y.; John James Cattanaach, N. Y.; Edward Alden Child, Fla.; Alphonse Joseph Dodin, N. Y.; Thomas Henry Doyle, N. Y.; Francis Henry Flagge, N. Y.; Frederick William Hopkins, Ireland; Robert Corwin Jones, N. Y.; Charles Kuehne, Ph.G., N. J.; William Joseph Magee, N. Y.; Benjamin Franklin Minich, Pa.; Theodore Wilson Moyer, Pa.; Maurice O'Connell, Mass.; Aaron William Radley, Pa.; Archibald Kay Robertson, Iowa; Henry Schmidt, Jr., Ohio; Andrew Strange, N. Y.; Milton Rauch Trumbower, Ills.; George Gomez Van Mater, N. Y.; James Abram Walrath, N. Y.; George Lewis Warner, N. Y.; Robert Weir, Mass.; Albert C. Young, Utah.



The prizes awarded to the successful competitors in special departments of study were then announced, and conferred upon the winners, by Prof. E. Doremus, M. D., of the Faculty. The following list comprises the fortunate names.

Dr. George Lewis Warner obtained the gold medal of the Board of Trustees for the best general examination.

Dr. A. C. Young received the prize of the Alumni Association, consisting of a set of medical veterinary books, for the second best general examination.

The gold medal of the New York State Veterinary Society, offered for the best practical examination passed by the graduate of any of the veterinary institutions in the State, before a committee appointed by the Society, was secured by Dr. Andrew Strange, one of the graduating class of the evening.

Prof. Liautard's anatomical prize for the senior class was carried off by Dr. F. W. Hopkins; and that of the junior class by Mr. J. D. Fair.

A silver medal was given to Dr. M. R. Trumbower, by Prof. C. B. Michener, for the best paper read and defended before the college association.

The valedictory was handsomely delivered by Dr. R. C. Jones, of the graduating class, and was followed by the address to the students by Mr. F. S. Vanderveer, of the Board of Trustees.

The benediction, pronounced by Dr. Weston, closed the programme of the evening.

(From the *Breeders' Gazette*.)

### INOCULATION FOR HOG CHOLERA A FAILURE.

M. Pasteur, the celebrated French physician whose investigations of the germ theory of disease, and whose cure for hydrophobia by inoculation have gained for him a world-wide reputation, some time ago turned his attention to the swine plague, which has played such havoc with the pork-producing interests of all countries, and after careful investigation discovered what he believed to be the germ of the disease, and was of the opinion

that by inoculation the ravages of the disease with the Bureau of Animal Industry of New York, method of procedure, him attenuated, forming the core of the Farm, near Ithaca, experiment, the Wing, Superintendent, September 2, 1888, related by Dr. Jones, was followed to the instruction, soon developed, post-mortem examination, Dean of the College, an accomplished, full microscopic examination of the body of the animal, identified as the disease, Pasteur, thus, been given a more interesting of hogs that the presence of the virus of the disease, progress of the slaughter, other parts of the animal, with the germ, died from the disease, recovered, on the twenty-two, related hogs were according to the proof, fifteen

that by inoculation herds would receive perfect immunity from the ravages of the disease. Dr. Julius Gerth, formerly connected with the Bureau of Animal Industry and at present State Veterinarian of Nebraska, determined to thoroughly test Pasteur's method of prevention, and accordingly obtained directly from him attenuated or weakened virus, with full instructions for performing the operation of inoculation. The Agricultural College Farm, near Lincoln, was chosen as the place for performing the experiment, the results of which, as obtained from Prof. H. H. Wing, Superintendent of the farm, are as follows: On November 2, 1885, twenty-eight sound and healthy hogs were inoculated by Dr. Gerth with the attenuated virus, which operation was followed two weeks later by the second inoculation, according to the instructions of M. Pasteur. Symptoms of the disease soon developed, and a hog was immediately slaughtered and a post-mortem made, with the assistance of Prof. Charles E. Bessey, Dean of the Industrial College and Professor of Botany, who is an accomplished and experienced microscopist. With his powerful microscope Prof. Bessey was able to discover in the fluids of the body of the slaughtered hog germs which he positively identified as the same as the germs in the virus obtained from Pasteur, thus demonstrating that by vaccination the hogs had been given a light attack of the "hog cholera." What is yet more interesting is the fact that post-mortems made of a number of hogs that had died near Lincoln of the swine plague revealed the presence of the same germs in large quantities. Examinations of the vaccinated hogs were made from time to time as the disease progressed, and the germs from the fluids of the bodies of the slaughtered hogs and the hogs that had died of disease in other parts of the country were clearly identified by Prof. Bessey with the germs found in the virus sent by Pasteur. No hogs died from the effects of the virus, and when all had fully recovered, on January 20, five sick pigs were introduced among the twenty-two which remained, to determine whether the inoculated hogs would contract the disease. Of the twenty-two which according to M. Pasteur's theory should be thoroughly disease-proof, *fifteen have died* and the remaining seven are "convales-

cent.” It is needless to state that these tests and observations were made by Dr. Gerth and Profs. Bessey and Wing with the strictest scientific accuracy even in the smallest detail, and their unanimous decision is that M. Pasteur’s “inoculation theory” has been tried and found wanting by the cold logic of facts. Dr. Gerth is preparing an exact and detailed account of the experiment, which we presume will be given to the public at an early day.

### PROPOSED LEGISLATION AT WASHINGTON.

FULL TEXT OF AN ACT TO AMEND AN ACT CREATING A BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY, APPROVED MAY 29, 1884, INTRODUCED BY SENATOR BECK, OF KENTUCKY.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled :*

SECTION 1. That in order to promote the exportation of live stock from the United States, and to protect and facilitate the commerce in cattle among the several States, and to remove the obstruction to inter-state and foreign commerce now occasioned by the existence of contagious diseases among domestic animals, the act establishing a Bureau of Animal Industry, approved May 29, 1884, be and the same is hereby amended as follows:

The Commissioner of Agriculture shall cause investigation to be made as to the existence of pleuro-pneumonia, foot-and-mouth disease, and rinderpest, or other exotic diseases, and is hereby authorized to enter premises for this purpose in any part of the United States where he may have reasons to suspect the existence of such disease or diseases. Upon the discovery of any of these diseases, the Commissioner of Agriculture, with the consent, approval, or co-operation of the Governor or other properly constituted authority of the State where such disease or diseases may be found, shall cause the appraisal of the animal or animals affected with, or that have been exposed to disease, and under the laws of the State provided for condemning private property for public use, shall cause the same to be destroyed and pay the

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owner three-fourths of such amounts as the appraisers may determine to have been their value before being diseased or exposed, out of any moneys appropriated by Congress for that purpose; *provided*, That he shall not pay more than \$160 for any animal with pedigree recorded or recordable in the recognized herd books of the breed to which it may belong, nor more than \$60 for an animal not pedigreed; *provided further*, That in no case shall compensation be allowed for any animal slaughtered under the provisions of this act that may have contracted or have been exposed to such disease in a foreign country or on the high seas; nor shall compensation be allowed to the owner of an animal where by reasonable diligence he or his proper agents could have protected his animals from becoming exposed, nor to any owner who in person or by agent knowingly conceals the existence of disease in his herd. Any person refusing permission to an officer of the Department of Agriculture to make necessary examination of animals supposed to be diseased as mentioned in this act, or attempting to prevent such officer from entering upon the premises where such disease is supposed to exist, shall, upon conviction thereof, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be punished by a fine of not exceeding \$500 or by imprisonment for not exceeding 100 days, or both fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court, and any person who shall knowingly conceal the existence of such disease or diseases on his premises, or who shall fail to report their presence to the proper authorities, shall, upon conviction thereof, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and punishable by the same penalties as are provided for resisting the officers of the Department of Agriculture before mentioned in this act.

Where the owner of exposed animals or the person in charge thereof refuses to accept the award of the appraisers appointed to value by the provisions of this act, it shall be the duty of the Commissioner of Agriculture to institute rigid quarantine as provided by the act of May 29, 1884, creating the Bureau of Animal Industry.

The Commissioner of Agriculture may employ such number of persons to assist in the execution of this act as may be necessary



during the prevalence of outbreaks of the diseases herein mentioned.

Whenever any State or Territory shall fail or refuse to adopt and enforce proper measures of its own for the suppression of the diseases herein named, or shall refuse to co-operate with the Commissioner of Agriculture, as herein provided, it shall be the duty of the said Commissioner to certify the facts to the President of the United States, who after verification thereof is hereby authorized to issue his proclamation prohibiting the removal of cattle to or from that State or Territory, or to or from any part thereof.

## SOCIETY MEETINGS.

### ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE A. V. C.

The regular meeting of the Alumni Association of the American Veterinary College was held in the lecture room of the college on Saturday, Feb. 27, President Dr. Hoskins in the chair.

Members present were Drs. Field, Coates, Hoskins, Critcherson, Johnson, Denslow, Bretherton, Pendry, Foote, Dixon, Krowl, Otto, Birdsall, Ruhl, and Michener.

Minutes of last meeting were read and on motion, adopted.

The question of admitting new members was then brought up.

The Secretary said he thought it had been held that all students graduating became members, and there was no necessary to elect. Considerable discussion followed; some holding opposite views, but a motion was finally passed, that the whole of the graduating class of '86 be invited to join without respect to dues, etc. A committee being appointed by the President to invite them, they proceeded to do so, and returned with Drs. Van Mater, Ashley, Bignell, Kuehne, Trumbower, Jones, Strange and Hopkins, who were addressed by the Chair as to the necessity of ever upholding the good name of their alma mater, etc.

The question of doing away with fees and dues of the Association was warmly discussed, some holding that the Association was an independent body, but which only admitted graduates of the college to membership. It was settled by Dr. McLean giving notice of amendments to by-laws and sections referring to fee and dues, doing away with same, etc.

Report of committee on prize was read by Dr. McLean and ordered received and adopted.

The following list of resident State Secretaries was, on motion, adopted: M. Bunker, Newton, Mass; L. G. Agersborg, Vermillion, Dak. T.; J. F. Autenreith, Jersey City, N. J.; W. H. Pendry, Brooklyn, N. Y.; E. M. Barnes, Kenosha, Wis.; F. W. Huntington, Woodford, Me.; W. H. Hoskins, Philadelphia, Pa.; E.

C. Ross, New Providence, R. H. Martenet, B. Fort Leavenworth, O.; G. H. K. Moulton, Fort City, Utah T.; Del.; J. W. Sc bridge. Bermud Cuba.

Dr. Dixon thought it was third Wednesday better be left in that the opening views of nearly Executive Com

Treasurer's ordered receive

The election President, Dr. Dr. Birdsall; T. Miller.

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C. Ross, New Haven, Conn.; R. F. Burleigh, Franklin, N. H.; C. H. Peabody, Providence, R. I.; C. W. Crowley, St. Louis, Mo.; M. Cushing, Joliet, Ill.; W. H. Martenet, Baltimore, Md.; A. D. Galbraith, Greensburg, Ind.; A. A. Holcombe, Fort Leavenworth, Ka.; J. D. Hopkins, Chyenne, Wyo. T.; A. J. Jeanin, Navarre, O.; G. H. Keefer, Hillsdale, Mich.; A. B. Morse, Des Moines, Iowa; C. L. Moulton, Fort Reno, Ind. T.; J. A. Myers, Linville, Va.; A. C. Young, Salt Lake City, Utah T.; W. H. Rose, Washington, D. C.; W. B. Rowland, Wilmington, Del.; J. W. Scheibler, Memphis, Tenn.; J. J. Gerth, Lincoln, Neb.; T. Outerbridge, Bermuda, W. I.; H. T. Yokura, Tokio, Japan; H. F. Laine, Havana, Cuba.

Dr. Dixon moved that the date of meeting be changed. Dr. McLean said he thought it was very necessary from the small number present, and named the third Wednesday in September. Dr. Coates thought the fixing of the date had better be left in the hands of the Executive Committee. Dr. Dixon suggested that the opening day of the college would be a good day, which seemed to meet the views of nearly all present. The matter was finally left in the hands of the Executive Committee.

Treasurer's report was read by Dr. Field, showing \$23 in hand, which was ordered received and adopted.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, and resulted as follows: President, Dr. Hoskins; 1st Vice-President, Dr. Michener; 2d Vice-President, Dr. Birdsall; Treasurer, Dr. Field; Secretary, Dr. Dimond; Alumni Trustee, Dr. Miller.

On motion \$32.25 was ordered to be paid by the Treasurer, being \$20 for prize, Secretary's account etc. Meeting then adjourned.

In the evening about forty members, with representatives of the Trustees and Faculty, sat down to dinner at Clark's Hotel, spending about four hours eating much and drinking little, with a large amount of pleasing interchanges thrown in.

W. H. PENDRY, D.V.S., *Secretary*.

#### PEGASUS REDIVIVUS

A trip to Mount Helicon, a draught from Hippocrene, and a canter on the back of Pegasus—a steed who has thrown more ambitious jockeys than Barnum's trickiest of trick mules—is still among modern possibilities.

Ecce SIGNUM.

#### ANSWER TO THE TOAST "THE CLASS OF '86," AT THE DINNER OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE A. V. C.

*To Our Beloved Professors:*

Then, here's to the Dean, the father of us all,  
Professor A. F. Liautard; may his glory ne'er grow small.  
We shall ne'er forget his kindness, or the lessons he has given,  
And I trust retain the many points that into our heads he's driven.  
We shall ne'er forget his ringing voice, and fluency so free;  
But to find his *centres of ossification*! this life is too  
Short for me!!

And next is Professor Robertson, the same from day to day,  
*He's a model of disposition*, I know the boys all say.  
 His subject is *par excellence*, and he always makes it plain—  
 May his life be long and happy, all sunshine and no rain;  
 May his children thrive and prosper, and fill his heart with glee,  
 But to make his *swell diagnosis*, this life is too  
 Short for me!!

Then comes Professor Doremus, with a smile upon his face;  
 He tackles my favorite subject, with the greatest ease and grace.  
 His lectures are a treat to all, so simple and so plain,  
 About batteries and spectroscopes, and the moon that has no rain.  
 But when he strikes his S. Ox. and C. H.<sup>6</sup> O.<sup>3</sup> !  
 To know what on earth he's talking about, this life is too  
 Short for me.

And then Professor Pomeroy gives us knowledge on the eye;  
 To find his equal here on earth, is foolishness to try.  
 He is master of his subject, and he makes it clear and plain;  
 I think if a man was blind as a bat, he'd make him see again.  
 His brain is filled with wisdom, and his heart is open and free,  
 But to learn his *thirteen coats of the retina*, this life is too  
 Short for me.

Then next Professor Michener comes, to teach us how to cure;  
 If we follow his good advice, our mortalities will be fewer.  
 Of cattle pathology he is king—long may his voice be heard,  
 And the walls of the good old green-room ring with each succeeding word.  
 On obstetrics, he is in advance, I know you will agree;  
 But to learn his *changes of the ovum*, this life is too  
 Short for me.

Then, here's to Professor Coates, the students' firm, true friend,  
 With always a smile and pleasant word, and helping hand to lend.  
 On operative surgery and physical diagnosis,  
 Then canine pathology and histology of the horses.  
 On physiology he takes the cake—gave sixteen lectures in three;  
 And his *nervous system of the tape-worm* opened a new chapter  
 In life for me.

And now Professor Dixon, with perspiration on his brow,  
 Has labored hard and patiently, to try and teach us how  
 Each muscle and each ligament has attachments to each bone,  
 And we thank him very kindly for the interest he has shown.  
 And alike to Professor Steurer, a large share of our thanks are due;  
 But to listen longer, I am afraid you'll think, this life is too  
 Short for you.

By DR. D. C. ASHLEY, Class 1886.

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## NEW YORK STATE VETERINARY SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the New York State Veterinary Society was held at the Ashland House, New York, on Tuesday, March 9. President R. A. McLean in the chair.

Members present were: Jos. L. Robertson, M.D., V.S., R. W. Finlay, D.V.S., L. McLean, M.R.C.V.S., D. J. Dixon, D.V.S., I. Denslow, D.V.S., R. A. Finlay, D.V.S., S. S. Field, D.V.S., H. F. Foote, M.D., D.V.S., W. H. Pendry, D.V.S., J. S. Cattanaach, V.S., J. Faust, V.S., J. Stokes, V.S., R. Ogle, V.S., C. C. Cattanaach, D.V.S., T. Ogle, V.S., W. E. Cuff, D.V.S., T. Birdsall, D.V.S., W. C. Bretherton, D.V.S., W. Carmody, M.R.C.V.S., W. H. Boyd, D.V.S., J. F. Mustoe, D.V.S. and G. P. Delesser, V.S.

Minutes of last meeting read and adopted.

Committee on Legislation reported that the bill introduced in the Assembly had been read twice, referred to the Committee on Public Health, reported favorably by them, and referred to the committee of the whole, and that it was expected in a few days that it would be ordered to a third reading, and pass the Assembly. The expenses of said committee, up to the time of reporting, had been, printing, \$20.00; expenses of chairman to Albany, \$15.00 and postage of circulars, \$3.75; total, \$38.75. On motion the report was received and adopted.

Secretary read the following report of the Prize Committee.

BROOKLYN, February 26, 1886.

*Dr. Pendry, Secretary New York State Veterinary Society:*

DEAR SIR.—We, the undersigned majority of the committee on the practical examination for the prize offered by the New York State Veterinary Society, would most respectfully report that the examination was held at the Hospital of Dr. Berns, 74 Adams Street, Brooklyn, on February 26, at 2 P.M. Drs. Field and Berns being present, Dr. Finlay absent. Six cases were submitted for examination, for diagnosis, prognosis and treatment to the gentlemen present. The cases consisted of purpura hemorrhagica, osteo porosis, pneumonia of the right lung, navicular arthritis, pharyngitis, glanders and one practical question in relation to the arrest of hemorrhage of the palatine artery; and all candidates were required to examine all patients, separately or in pairs, and give a written opinion of each case. After a careful examination of the opinions submitted, we find that Dr. Andrew Strange has passed the best examination, and he is in our opinion entitled to the prize offered by our society. We would also beg to most favorably mention Drs. Walrath and Doyle.

Yours very respectfully,

S. S. FIELD, D.V.S., Chairman.

GEO. H. BERNS, D.V.S.

The Secretary proceeded to read also a letter attached to the report, but was stopped by the Chair, on the grounds that it was not a report. It was stated that it was a copy of a letter which had been sent to the Dean of the college which was interested by the decision of the committee.

Dr. L. McLean raised the question of the power of the Secretary to report to the Dean of any college; he considered he had exceeded his duty.

Dr. R. W. Finlay asked how the letter attached referred to the report.

Dr. L. McLean said the question was, whether the report be received.

Dr. C. C. Cattanaach moved, seconded by Dr. Dixon, that the report be received.

Dr. L. McLean moved in amendment, that the report be not received. There being no seconder to this, it was ruled out. The question being called for, the motion was put and carried.

Dr. Field, chairman of the Prize Committee, said the committee had been notified of their appointment by the Secretary, and that only one college had accepted the invitation to compete for the prize. According to the Secretary's letter of July 12, he had therefore arranged to have the examination held at a date to suit the parties interested, which was fixed for February 26, and under date of the 16th, he so notified the Secretary. After all this had been done, he received through the Secretary, a letter dated the 17th of February, from Dr. L. McLean, as Secretary of the New York College, stating that there would be graduates from that school and that they would be ready about March 17, and asking what date the examination would be held. He replied, giving the date arranged. He moved, seconded by Dr. Birdsall, that the committee be discharged.

Dr. L. McLean moved as an amendment, seconded by Dr. R. W. Finlay, that the committee be not discharged until he had been heard. This being carried, he stated that he was the originator of the gold medal given by the Society. He had expected manliness and fair play; it was all he asked for. On February 17, he had notified the Chairman of the Examining Committee, through the Secretary, that there would be at least six members of the New York College to compete for the prize, and asked for the date of the examination. He stated that the students would be graduated about March 30. He had received a reply stating that the examination would be held on February 20, and that the prize was only open to graduates. Surely the New York College could not be expected to close its session three weeks before its time, neither would it be expected the American Veterinary College would lengthen its session for that length of time. He contended that the medal had been gobbled up, three weeks before the students of the New York College were ready to compete. He could not say whether or not the students of the American Veterinary College were afraid to meet those of the New York.

Dr. R. W. Finlay said he did not know what had been the rule regarding the medal. If it was open to the three colleges, it would hardly appear that the New York College had had fair play.

Dr. Birdsall considered that only one mistake had been made, and that was, in not allowing students instead of graduates to compete, subject to graduating.

Dr. R. A. McLean said he was present at the examination, and had formally objected to the committee proceeding to award the prize.

Dr. R. W. Finlay had no desire to reprimand the Prize Committee. If the usual rule had been followed, they should be discharged.

Dr. J. S. Cattanaach said he agreed with Dr. L. McLean, that both colleges should have had a day set apart for the examination.

Secretary Pendry stated that perhaps he could throw some light on the subject. On January 23d he had notified the three colleges, Cornell, New York and the American, that the Society would give a prize of a gold medal for the best practical examination passed by any graduating student of 1886, of these colleges, and asking to be informed at once whether or not they would send any, and about what time they would be ready, repeating precisely what had been

done last year. ing that they wo time after Febr receiving any f wrongly, it was give his letters th the other declini notified the chair reply, saying, th under date of F letter from Dr. I to Dr. Field. A addressed to the mittee, and was affects your colle He did not consi and not attempte

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done last year. On January 28th he received a reply from the American, stating that they would have competitors for the medal, who would be ready any time after February 24th. He had then waited till February 12th, without receiving any further replies to his notices, and had concluded—rightly or wrongly, it was for the meeting to say—that the two remaining colleges would give his letters the same treatment that they did last year—the one not answering, the other declining to send any one to compete—and after waiting three weeks, notified the chairman that only the American had responded, to which he got reply, saying, the examination had been fixed for February 26th. This was under date of February 16th; and under date of February 17th, he received a letter from Dr. L. McLean, as stated by that gentleman, which he had forwarded to Dr. Field. As to the letter attached to the report, it was a copy of a letter addressed to the Dean of the college interested by the decision of the Prize Committee, and was simply as follows: "As the decision of the Prize Committee affects your college, I take pleasure in forwarding you a copy of their report." He did not consider he had exceeded his duties; he had followed the usual plan, and not attempted to form new rules.

Dr. R. W. Finlay said, after the explanation from the Secretary, it would not appear that any new rules had been laid down, and thought they would have to discharge the committee.

Dr. L. McLean protested. His letter was dated February 17th, and arrangements had only been made on the 16th, and could not have taken root deeply.

The motion to discharge the committee with thanks, was carried, as was also one to the effect that Dr. L. McLean's protest be entered on the minutes.

The Secretary's report was then read, showing sixty-one members in good standing. On motion, it was received and adopted.

Treasurer's report was also read, showing there was due him \$38.62. The report, on motion, was ordered received and adopted.

The election of officers being next in order, and a motion being carried, that the Chair appoint a Nominating Committee, the following gentlemen were so named: Drs Dixon, L. McLean and J. S. Cattanaach. They reported as follows: For President, R. W. Finlay, D.V.S., and S. S. Field, D.V.S.; First Vice-President, S. K. Johnson, D.V.S., and Geo. H. Berus, D.V.S.; Second Vice-President, C. C. Cattanaach, D.V.S., and G. Delessor, V.S.; Secretary and Treasurer, W. E. Cuff, D.V.S., and W. H. Pendry, D.V.S. Board of Censors, R. A. McLean, D.V.S., W. Carmody, M.R.C.V.S., R. Ogle, V.S., J. Faust, V.S., R. A. Finlay, D.V.S., W. J. Coates, M.D., D.V.S., T. Birdsall, D.V.S., J. S. Cattanaach, V.S., W. C. Bretherton, D.V.S., and E. Waters, V.S.

On motion, report was received, and balloting ordered to be proceeded with, which resulted as follows: President, R. W. Finlay, D.V.S.; First Vice-President, S. K. Johnson, D.V.S.; Second Vice-President, C. C. Cattanaach, D.V.S.; Secretary and Treasurer, W. H. Pendry, D.V.S. Board of Censors, R. A. McLean, D.V.S., Chairman; W. Carmody, M.R.C.V.S., W. J. Coates, M.D., D.V.S., R. A. Finlay, D.V.S., and R. Ogle, V.S.

The newly elected President having been conducted to the chair, was welcomed by the retiring President, with the hope that he would find an easier seat than he had. Dr. Finlay returned thanks for the honor conferred, and promised with the aid of the members to try and make the meetings interesting.



The question of a general meeting place was brought up, and on motion, Drs. R. A. McLean, Delessier and R. A. Finlay were appointed to find such a place, its cost, and report at next meeting.

The Treasurer reminded the meeting that there was an indebtedness of \$65.00 to start the year with, for printing account due, and balance due account.

The Chair instructed the Committee to bear this in mind.

On motion, meeting adjourned till second Tuesday in April, to meet at the same place, and Dr. C. C. Cattnach was appointed as essayist.

W. H. PENDRY, D.V.S., *Secretary*.

## DEFECTS OF THE PRESENT U. S. ARMY VETERINARY SERVICE.

The aggregate pecuniary value of army animals is nearly three million dollars.

Two-thirds of those animals, value two million dollars, are utterly unprovided with veterinary attendance or supervision, but are left to the ignorant and often brutal treatment of soldiers and drivers, resulting in large annual loss of public property.

Large losses annually occur, and great waste of veterinary drugs, instruments, etc., there being no veterinary specialist in charge of these, their feeding, shoeing, purchasing and general management being regulated by "Boards" composed of officers who have not the necessary technical knowledge or education to fit them for such positions.

U. S. Army officers, unlike their European confreres, do not receive the slightest instruction on veterinary matters, although they are frequently in charge of large numbers of public animals, and have the regulation of veterinary affairs, purchase of horses and mules, frame rules for feeding, watering, shoeing, medicines, veterinary attendance, etc.

Army horseshoeing "according to tactics," is "foot butchery, hoof mutilation, and destruction;" it prematurely cripples and renders useless hundreds of valuable horses and mules each year.

The annual animal condemned and death list presents a far higher percentage than any other civilized army, requiring a yearly appropriation of two hundred thousand dollars.

Animals fit for military purposes are becoming scarcer, of greater pecuniary value, and more difficult to procure from year to year.

Large number of animals are unfit from being bought from want of being bought.

The present relative rank of pension for professional duties, able, efficient, ing entered,

The Board of graduates of the best and empirics horses for the purchase of animals in the

On the 1st of January, 1885, of them affected rendered their pecuniary value to the Government.

Appointments of veterinary command and ing veterinary the value one long periods serious losses 1876, where the appointment suppressed of fifty thousand

The Act of 1876, regiment shall regiments are notably instaurated

Large numbers of animals anatomically unsound, physically unfit from bad conformation, etc. etc., are annually purchased, from want of professional veterinary examination previous to being bought.

The present position of the army veterinarians, their low relative rank, poor pay, utter want of prospects, promotion or pension for long services, injuries or wounds, to which their professional duties render them so liable, is such as to deter respectable, efficient or talented professional men from entering, or, having entered, remaining in the service.

The Board of 1879 decided that all "army veterinarians must be graduates of reputable colleges or schools," nevertheless, four of the best appointments are at present in the hands of quacks and empirics, *including the position of "Inspector of Cavalry horses for the Division of the Missouri," the latter resulting in the purchase of anatomically unsound and physically unfit animals in large numbers.*

*On the arrival at their post of ninety remount horses, purchased in 1885, a casual professional examination revealed seventeen of them affected with various chronic diseases, which not only rendered them worthless for military purposes, but reduced their pecuniary value at least seventy-five per cent. below what they cost the Government.*

Appointments as army veterinarians are in the hands of regimental commanders. From individual idiosyncracies, difficulty of retaining veterinarians, etc., cavalry regiments, composed of animals to the value one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, are frequently for long periods without professional assistance, often resulting in serious losses of public animals; as instanced in the First Cavalry in 1876, where an outbreak of "glanders," after two years duration, on the appointment of a veterinarian, was shown in its true light, and suppressed only by the destruction of horses and property, value fifty thousand dollars, and several human lives were sacrificed.

The Act of Congress specifically states "that each cavalry regiment shall have one veterinary surgeon," nevertheless, many regiments are frequently, for long periods, not so provided, notably instanced in the Fourth Cavalry, where, owing to personal

whims, this regiment has been without the services of a veterinarian for some years, this negligence daily jeopardizing and endangering large amounts of public property.

The Board of 1879 recommended as a measure of economy that a veterinarian be stationed in each large garrison.

Veterinary education comprises a three years' curriculum, an expenditure of about three thousand dollars, and more subjects are as minutely studied as in human medicine, viz: mineralogy, botany, physics, chemistry, analysis of food and water, physiology, histology, pathological anatomy, general pathology, (human, equine, ovine, bovine, canine and feline,) medicines, therapeutics, soundness of animals, dietetics, buying and selling, transportation, horse-shoeing, clinics, obstetrics, surgery, forensic medicine, veterinary police and contagious diseases, meat inspection, animal conformation, operative practice, microscopy, sanitation, stabling, examination of forage, grain, water, etc., hygiene, skin diseases, ophthalmology, helminthology, jurisprudence, etc., etc.

The army veterinarian is paid less than the telegraph operator, ordnance sergeant, wagon boss, mulepacker, post blacksmith and carpenter, Q. M. clerk, etc., etc.; he has only the rank, quarters, and social status of the enlisted man, consequently his professional suggestions and instructions are neither received nor executed with the respect and promptness they deserve.

In all other branches of Government veterinary service, (the Bureau of Agriculture, and various State veterinary officials,) the veterinarian is recognized, treated, and respected as a professional representative, and a gentleman, with stipend from two thousand dollars to five thousand dollars per annum.

The army veterinarian's pay is not sufficient to supply more than the bare necessities of life, as army living is high and expensive. In travelling he is only allowed the same amount of baggage as an enlisted man, and consequently must dispose of his effects when leaving, and purchase others at the next station. His travel pay stops on his arrival at his destination, although he is frequently compelled to remain at hotels, etc., for long periods, through scarcity of quarters.

The Quartermaster General in his annual report of 1884-5, states "that veterinarians are practically without quarters."

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Approach

As a professional representative he cannot associate with the enlisted men, if he wishes to command the respect necessary to the proper performance of his duties. His present status and pay debars him from the society of officers and their families.

In all European armies, including those of England, France, Germany, Russia, Egypt, Italy, Sweden, etc., etc., the veterinarian is a commissioned officer, ranking from lieutenant to colonel; some of those countries are so particular in this respect, (France and Germany) *that they graduate and educate their own veterinary cadets, and in all of them, their veterinary services are organized into special corps and departments.*

The British War Department control thirteen thousand six hundred animals, and employ about *two hundred* of the most scientific and talented veterinarians, ranking as commissioned officers from lieutenant to colonel. The U. S. War Department control over fifteen thousand animals, and employ *but fourteen veterinarians*, ranking as *enlisted men*, hence none but the very refuse of the veterinary profession will remain in the army under the present humiliating conditions, resulting in great loss of public property and detriment to the military service.

Troop horse-shoers and farriers are detailed to these duties without the slightest intelligent instructions, but are left to their own ignorant, injurious, and often cruel devices, resulting in ruining, crippling and poisoning public animals, large numbers being permanently and prematurely rendered useless, and sold as unservicable and unfit for further service, from the above easily preventible causes.

The establishment of a veterinary hospital, pharmacy and shoeing shop in each post, under the special control and supervision of a veterinarian, would cause immense saving, preventing the present exhibition of enormous and poisonous doses of drugs by ignorant farriers, the ruinous foot butchery and hoof mutilation now carried out by horse-shoers, and for the isolation of sick animals; the latter are now retained in their usual stalls in the midst of their companions, hence the frequency of outbreaks of contagious diseases amongst army animals.

Approaching service in cities, and neighborhood of the centres



of contagious diseases, together with the removal of military animals from soft prairies to hard roads and pavements, renders the establishment of an army veterinary department, and inducements for talented veterinarians to enter and remain in the service, an urgent necessity, and a measure of economy. The present disgraceful state of army veterinary matters savors largely of apathy, and negligence of the best interests, and detriment to the various branches of the service.

The formation of an army veterinary corps, with its commissioned officers, as in all European countries, would result in great economy, and benefit to the best interests of the service, by reducing the present high mortality, and yearly animal condemned list, arising from causes not enquired into, the purchase of sound and proper animals, prevent the present waste of drugs and other veterinary materials, providing rational instructions for veterinary nurses and horse-shoers. At present, certain stables, posts, regiments, batteries, and garrisons may have an unusually high death rate, or percentage of sick or diseased animals, and continue so, without the slightest attention or inquiries as to their causes, or measures being undertaken for their removal, prevention or re-appearance.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### VETERINARY EDUCATION.

DAYTON, O., February 20, 1886.

*Editor American Veterinary Review :*

DEAR SIR.—Dr. Pendry in his very able letter to the *REVIEW* on Veterinary Education, asks a question he and others have a right to ask.

What has been done by the committee appointed by the United States Veterinary Medical Association, in September, 1884?

I with two others was appointed on the committee. Soon after I wrote to the principal of the Ontario Veterinary College, (I being the only Ontario man in that committee). The answer I

received was unnecessary actions to more what attended the ical Associa

Dr. A. Lia

DEAR SIR  
March number  
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received was not favorable to any action, with reasons which it is unnecessary to mention. I have communicated the result of my actions to Dr. Michener, stating the case to him. I know no more what has been done and had I not been ill I should have attended the last meeting of the United States Veterinary Medical Association, and reported as to my unsucccess.

W. R. HOWE, V.S.

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CORRECTION.

MEADVILLE, March 13, 1886.

*Dr. A. Liautard :*

DEAR SIR.—A typographical error occurs in my article in March number of the REVIEW, on page 509. I am made to say that I gave *x. gills tinct. aconite* with hypodermic syringe, and the same sentence is then repeated. The printer has taken the abbreviation "gtts. drops" for gills; please correct that statement by notice in April number.

Yours, &c.,

C. C. McLEAN.

# Montreal Veterinary College,

*Established 1866*

In connection with the Medical Faculty of McGill University.

## SESSION 1884-'85.

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on Tuesday, October 3d, at 8 P.M.

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## School of Veterinary Medicine.

Session 1886,-87.

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